## CLAIMS

1.      (Currently amended) A scalable edge node that receives content from a

Network Operations Center (NOC) via a satellite ~~link~~content distribution network and

distributes it via a last mile service provider, the edge node comprising:

a variable number of media servers ~~connected to a load balancer, the load~~

~~balancer capable of determining which of the servers connected to it is best able to~~

~~meet a user's request for content~~, the number of media servers capable of being

changed, while content is being received, to meet changes in demand for data;

a load balancer, connected to the variable number of media servers, capable of

determining which of the servers connected to it is best able to meet a user's request

for content;

a shared storage device connected to the media servers; ~~and~~

a private Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN)that receives content from the

NOC over the satellite ~~link~~content distribution network and distributes it to the shared

storage device, the private VLAN connected to the media servers and comprising a

receiving router, a receiver, a demodulator, and a gateway;~~,~~

an outbound router connected to the media servers for transmitting content to

the last mile service provider;

a firewall; and

where the outbound router and load balancer comprise a public VLAN, and

the firewall connects both the public and private VLANs.

2.	(Currently amended) The edge node of claim 1, where the media servers, the load balancer, the shared storage device, ~~and~~ the private VLAN, the outbound router, and the firewall are enclosed in a single equipment rack.

3.	(Currently amended) A method for using ~~an~~ a number of servers installed in an edge node to distribute content, received from a Network Operations Center (NOC) through a satellite ~~link~~content distribution network, to a number of users via a last mile service provider, comprising:

receiving requests for content from some or all of the users;

altering the number of servers installed in the edge node based on the number of users from whom the requests for content are received;

using ~~the~~ a load balancer to ascertain the number of servers presently installed in the edge ~~nn~~node;

using the load balancer to determine which of the servers are best able to meet the requests; and

using the determined servers to meet the requests.